

ABSTRACT

A frame relay communication device sends, to a frame relay network at least twice continuously, a second state inquiry message for inquiring normality of a first data link between a party on the other end of communication connected through the frame relay network. The frame relay communication device receives a second response message corresponding to a second state inquiry message sent from the frame relay network, and recognizes a state of the first data link based on the received second state inquiry message. Therefore, if the state of the first data link has changed after the second response message of the first time was sent, the frame relay communication device recognizes the state of the first data link by the second response message of the second time.